

REMARKS

The Office Action indicated Claims 1-8 were allowable. Applicant requests that the allowance be held in abeyance until consideration of these remarks.

The Office Action rejected Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Ene-Pietrosanu et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0235342). *Ene-Pietrosanu* was filed on January 16, 2004.

Although, the Application for the present invention was filed on January 21, 2004, the present invention has an earlier invention date than the filing date of *Ene-Pietrosanu* as seen by the Declarations submitted with this response.

The inventors signed a Declaration on November 19, 2003 after reviewing an English language patent application including the specification, claims, and drawings which was subsequently filed as the Application for the Present Invention. Also, the original Claim 9 as filed and currently at issue is disclosed in the specification filed as the Application for the present invention.

Furthermore, the inventors of the invention gave a presentation on the subject matter which forms the basis of the original Claim 9 as filed on January 27, 2003 at the 2003 Symposium on Cryptography and Information Security in Hamamatsu, Japan. The presentation was published as an article on January 26, 2003 with an English translated title “A study on attack considering key schedule against block ciphers” in Volume 1 of Proceedings of the 2003 Symposium on Cryptography and Information Security on pages 363-68.

An English translation of the relevant part of the article is also submitted with the Japanese version of the article. As can be seen, the equations on page 13 of the specification are identical to the equations depicted in Section 3.2 of the article.

In addition, the law firm for Applicant received the English language patent application including the specification, claims, drawings, and declaration on January 15, 2004, which was subsequently filed as the Application for the present invention on January 21, 2004.

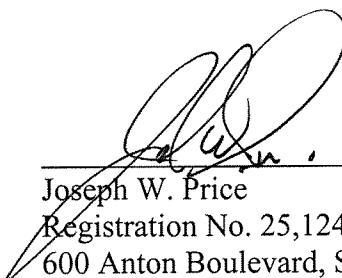
Thus, the present invention has an invention date prior to the filing date of *Ene-Pietrosanu*.

Applicant also notes that Claims 1-4 in Applicant's related U.S. Application No. 10/622,722 were provisionally rejected by Examiner Okoronkwo for obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-9 of the present application.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview will help further the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number.

Very truly yours,

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.



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